

10/529320

JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 MAR 2005
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Applicant: | Nestle | Examiner: | Unassigned |
| Serial No.: | Unassigned | Group Art Unit: | Unassigned |
| Confirmation No: | Unassigned | Docket: | 442-236 PCT/US |
| Filed: | Herewith | Dated: | March 25, 2005 |
| For: | CONNECTOR OR FLUID LINES | | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In order to fulfill the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants submit herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98.

UNITED STATES PATENTS

| <u>PATENTEE</u> | <u>PATENT NO.</u> | <u>ISSUE DATE</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mueller | 2,845,282 | July 29, 1958 |
| Vu | 5,803,507 | September 8, 1998 |
| Bump et al. | 5,944,048 | August 31, 1999 |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| <u>COUNTRY</u> | <u>PUBLICATION NO.</u> | <u>PUBLICATION DATE</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| EPO | EP 0664 879 B1 | January 5, 2000 |
| Germany | DE 200 08 129 U1 | August 10, 2000 |
| Germany | DE 694 27 645 T2 | April 13, 1995 |
| Germany | DE 39 05 524 A1 | August 30, 1990 |
| U.K. | GB 1427409 | March 10, 1976 |
| Germany | DE 72 30 533 | November 16, 1972 |

Copies of the references set forth above have been enclosed herewith for the convenience of the Examiner and a separate listing of the same has been set forth on Form PTO-1449 also enclosed herewith.

DE 200 08 129 and DE 39 05 524 have been cited in the International Search Report issued in a corresponding PCT application. Accordingly, a copy of the English translation of the International Search Report showing the degree of relevancy of each reference is enclosed. Also note that German Patent Nos. DE 200 08 129 and DE 298 21 672 are also discussed in the specification of the present application.

Finally, DE 69 427 645 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,803,507 and DE 72 30 533 corresponds to GB 1427409. Copies of these English language equivalents are also submitted.

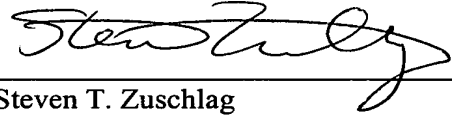
In view of the present submission, it is believed that the present application is in all respects complete and in condition for examination and favorable consideration which is earnestly solicited.

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If the Examiner has any questions or comments relating to the present application, he or she is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
 442-236 PCT/US

SERIAL NO.
 Unassigned

10/529320

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT
 Unassigned

CONFIRMATION NO.
 Unassigned

(Use several sheets if necessary)

FILING DATE
 Herewith

GROUP
 Unassigned

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|--------------------|------|------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------|
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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| | 2,845,282 | July 29, 1958 | Mueller | | | |
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| | | | | | | YES | NO |
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| | DE 39 05 524 A1 | Aug. 30, 1990 | Germany | | | | |
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| | DE 72 30 533 | Nov. 16, 1972 | Germany | | | | |
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.